Chicago Board of Trade (CBOT) during May 2007 varied from US $ 172.33 to US$ 189.97 per MT and during October 2007 from US $ 293.95 to US $ 349.98 per MT.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The import of wheat was done cautiously through Government of India undertakings namely STC, MMTC and PEC who floated global tenders and finalized purchase as per the established procedures.

Price fall of essential items

†44. DR. MURLIMANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that prices of 30 items of daily consumption for common man has decreased enormously from August, 2008 to January, 2009;

(b) if so, the precentage of fall in prices; and

(c) the percentage of price fall of wheat, pulses, milk, fruits, vegetables and rice separately in the cities of first, second, third and fourth category in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) Retail Price Index Numbers in respect of 31 Essential Commodities on the basis of price data collected from the 78 important industrial centres under Consumer Price Index Numbers for Industrial Workers on base 2001-100 for August, 2008 and December, 2008 are given in the enclosed Statement-I (*See* below). These indicate a mixed trend. Retail Price Index in respect of 31 essential commodities for January, 2009 has not yet been compiled.

(c) Labour Bureau has not made any categorization of 78 centres as cities of first, second, third and fourth categories. However, the change in group/sub-group indices in December, 2008 over August, 2008 under Consumer Price Index Numbers for Industrial Workers on base 2001-100 is given in statement-II.

Item-wise percentage increase/decrease in retail price indices of 31 essential commodities in December, 2008 over August, 2008

	Items Index During August,	Items Index During December,	% variation Dec.08/Aug.08
Commodities	2008	2008	
1	2	3	4
Rice	149.96	151.6	1.09
Wheat (Whole)	161.46	156.85	-2.86
Wheat (Atta)	160.35	161.5	0.72
Bajra	151.63	158.58	4.58
Jowar	220.99	202.87	-8.20
Arhar Dal	175.73	183.7	4.54
Gram Dal	144.46	139.4	-3.50

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3	4
Masur Dal	211.73	237.69	12.26
Moong Dal	154	156.4	1.56
Urad Dal	129.52	131.55	1.57
Coconut Oil	196.28	187.11	-4.67
Groundnut Oil	197.47	178.16	-9.78
Mustard Oil	208.38	201.33	-3.38
Vanaspati	198.05	161.57	-18.42
Goat Meat	167.09	176.59	5.69
Fish Fresh	164.96	174.46	5.76
Milk	137.72	142.92	3.78
Chillies Dry	159.54	171.47	7.48
Onion	155.6	218	40.10
Salt	157.5	164.64	4.53
Potato	113.99	105.62	-7.34
Gur	153.94	162.03	5.26
Sugar	126.75	128.45	1.34
Tea	120.43	132.44	9.97
Kerosene	98.28	99.14	0.88
Match Box	116.62	132.88	13.94
Soft Coke	183.01	187.1	2.23
Dhoti	129.27	127.93	-1.04
Long Cloth	126.59	130.47	3.07
Saree	116.73	118.1	1.17
Washing soap	147.71	170.56	15.47
RPI for 31 Essential Items (Urban)	152.1	155.36	2.14

Statement-II

All India SEB-groups and group-wise consumer price index numbers for industrial workers on base 2001=100 in August 2008 and December 2008

Sl.No.	Group/Sub-Group	Index	
		August 08	December 08
1	2	3	4
Food Sub-groups			
a.	Cereals &Products	154.26	154.62
b.	Pulses & Products	166.00	172.31
c.	Oils & Fats	201.02	183.60
d.	Meat, Fish & Egg	164.12	172.89

1	2	3	4
e.	Milk & Products	141.28	146.81
f.	Condiments & Spices	155.78	170.23
g.	Vegetables & Fruits	147.47	142.92
h.	Other Fruits	135.33	140.46
I	Food Group	153.48	155.50
II	Pan, Supari, Tobacco & Intoxicants	136.06	140.43
III	Fuel & Light	144.17	146.63
IV	Housing	136.17	136.17
V	Clothing, Bedding & Footwear	121.70	123.38
Miscellaneous Sub groups			
a.	Medical Care	140.44	143.33
b.	Education & Recreation	134.57	139.04
c.	Transport & Communication	154.27	152.93
d.	Personnel Care & Effects	130.79	137.52
e.	Other Miscellaneous Items	138.46	148.39
VI	Miscellaneous Groups	139.72	143.88
	General Index	144.56	146.83

Source:

Allocation of foodgrains and kerosene to frontier and hilly States

†45. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration with Government to allocate more quantity of foodgrains and kerosene oil to frontier and hilly States in comparison to other States under the Public Distribution System;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) Full quantity of foodgrains are allocated to the accepted number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families in all the States and Union Territories.

The allocations of foodgrains for the Above Poverty Line (APL) families are made depending upon availability of foodgrains in the Central Pool. However, keeping in view the special situation,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.